

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 9, 11-12, 14-21 and 23-26 are pending in the Application and are now presented for examination. Claims 1, 4, 5, 15-17, 19, 21, 23 and 25 have been amended. Claims 6-8, 10, 13 and 22 have been cancelled, without prejudice and without disclaimer of subject matter. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 16 and 21 are independent.

Patentability under 35 U.S.C. §102

On page 3 of the Office Action, Claims 1-4, 11, 12, 14, 16-18, and 20, 21, 23, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 20040257436 A1 to Koyanagi *et al.* (“Koyanagi”). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Independent Claim 1

Features of independent Claim 1 recite “generate, from the buffered wide angle image data, panoramic view data of a panoramic view of the monitored area; generate virtual view data from the wide-angle image data used to generate the panoramic view data, the virtual view data representing a virtual view of a portion of the panoramic view.” Koyanagi does not teach, disclose or suggest these features.

Applicant has amended Claim 1 to explicitly recite that the panoramic view and the virtual view are directly extracted from the buffered image data, i.e., “generate, from the buffered wide angle image data, panoramic view data” and “generate virtual view data from the wide-angle image data used to generate the panoramic view data.” As recited in amended Claim 1, the same buffered wide angle image data is used to create both the panoramic view data and the virtual view data. The claimed invention generates the close up virtual view data using the

same buffered wide angle image data that was used to create the panoramic view data. There is no need to perform extra steps to collect and buffer more video data, as both data views are created from the same already buffered wide angle image data.

In striking contrast, in Koyanagi, a user selects an area in either the operation area or the panorama operation area. See Abstract. The computer then obtains data for driving the pan tilter, so that the selected area/object is displayed at the center of the operation area. Id. The selected object is captured directly from the pan tilter camera after mechanically controlling the pan tilter camera. ¶¶[0042]-[0043], and Figure 1. Thus, the image displayed in the operation area is not a “virtual view” extracted from the same buffered wide angle data, but an actual view using new additional data captured from the pan tilter camera. As such, in Koyanagi, additional data is needed to display the user’s selection, i.e. the wide angle image data previously collected is insufficient, and so the pan tilter camera captures additional data. Therefore, Koyanagi does not use the same already received data to create a closer view, but instead uses additional data obtained from the camera. Applicants respectfully assert that Koyanagi does not teach, disclose or suggest “generate, from the buffered wide angle image data, panoramic view data of a panoramic view of the monitored area; generate virtual view data from the wide-angle image data used to generate the panoramic view data, the virtual view data-representing a virtual view of a portion of the panoramic view” as recited in amended Claim 1. Applicant respectfully asserts that Claim 1 is patentable over Koyanagi, and respectfully requests the withdrawal of this rejection.

Independent Claims 16 and 21

Independent Claims 16 and 21 recite features similar to Claim 1. Specifically, Claim 16 recites the features of “generating a virtual view data from the wide-angle image data used to

generate the panoramic view data.” Claim 21 recites the features of “means for processing and generating virtual view data from the wide-angle image data used to generate the panoramic view data.” As discussed above with respect to Claim 1, these features are not taught, disclosed or suggested by Koyanagi. These claims are therefore believed patentable, and Applicant respectfully requests the rejections to these claims be withdrawn.

Patentability under 35 U.S.C. §103

Dependent Claims 9 and 19

On page 8 of the Office Action, Claims 9 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Koyanagi in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 20070182819 to Monroe (“Monroe”). Claims 9 and 19 are each dependent indirectly from one or another of independent Claims 1 and 16, discussed above. These claims recite additional limitations which, in conformity with the features of their corresponding independent claim, are not disclosed or suggested by the art of record. The dependent claims are therefore believed patentable. However, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

Dependent Claims 5, 15, 24, and 25

On page 10 of the Office Action, Claims 5, 15, 24, and 25 rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Koyanagi in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,563,650 A to Poelstra (“Poelstra”). Claims 5, 15, 24, and 25 are each dependent directly or indirectly from independent Claims 1 and 16, discussed above. These claims recite additional limitations which, in conformity with the features of their corresponding independent claim, are not disclosed or suggested by the art of record. The dependent claims are therefore believed patentable.

However, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

For all of the above reasons, the claim objections are believed to have been overcome placing Claims 1-5, 9, 11-12, 14-21 and 23-26 in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Of note, Applicant's undersigned representative is registered to practice before the United States Patent & Trademark Office. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.34 and M.P.E.P. §405, the signature of Applicant's undersigned representative is representation that he is authorized to represent Applicant and the assignee on whose behalf he is acting.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit overpayments or charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 502104.

Respectfully submitted,

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